

some of these Undertakings wanted to have houses to suit their requirements.

(d) The expendable houses were also offered to the general public who had not registered earlier with the DDA. These houses would be allotted only to those who have applied for these houses.

(e) Allotments to the registrants of the New Patterns Registration Scheme 1979 are made by draw of lots and no area preference is allowed.

Uses of Atomic Energy

3889. SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount spent on atomic reactors so far;
- (b) the details of various uses of atomic energy;
- (c) the benefit strictly in financial terms; and
- (d) the different uses of atomic energy proposed to be put in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being compiled and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Wastelands Development Programme

3890. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to give some incentives to motivate the Corporate Sector for taking up Wasteland Development Programme and providing tax relief under this programme and if so, the time by which it is likely to be done;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 12 Wasteland Development Projects of Rajasthan are pending with the Union Government;

(d) if so, whether Union Government propose to issue the sanction of these projects;

(e) if so, the time by which these projects are likely to be sanctioned;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Union Government propose to revise the cost per hectare of Wasteland Development Programme in view of the geographic conditions and adverse climatic conditions of the States;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The on-going Central Sector Investment Promotional Scheme for development of Non-forest Wastelands (IPS) envisages involving corporate sector in the development of wastelands. The objective of the scheme is to facilitate/attract/channelise/mobilize resources from financial institutions, banks, corporate bodies including user industries and other entrepreneur for development of non forest wastelands belonging to Central/State Governments, Panchyat, Village Community, Private Farmers etc.

Under the scheme, Central promotional subsidy/grant is provided by Central Government subject to a maximum of Rs. 25.00 lakhs or 25% of the total cost of the project as approved and firmed up by the financial institutions/banks, whichever is less. In addition, project formulation assistance for the preparation of bankable/viable projects at the rate of 1% of the project cost is permissible; however, in the case of projects promoted by Members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, they are eligible for 50% promotional grant/subsidy subject to a ceiling of Rs. 50,000 per project, in addition to the provision of 1% of the project cost as project formulation assistance.

The Investment Promotional scheme has no provision for tax relief.

(c) to (f) Presently, three proposals are pending for consideration under Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP) Scheme in the Department submitted by Sikar (two project proposals) and Dholpur, districts of Rajasthan.

Other 10 proposals have been returned to the State Government for re-formulation as per Guidelines for Watershed Development. On receipt of required information these proposals will be considered on merit. No time limit can be indicated for sanction of these projects.

(g) Presently, no proposal for revision of cost norms per hectare under IWDP scheme for Watershed Development is under consideration.

(h) Question does not arise.

(i) No specific request has been received so far.

Uptron India Ltd.

3891. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Uptron India Ltd., a UP Electronics Corporation Unit, is lying sick from 1994 with BIFR and the Prime Minister had assured that the Uptron will not be allowed to be sold;

(b) if so, the number of employees on the strength of Uptron, as on date, category-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to offer a 'golden handshake' to such employees; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Uptron India Limited, a public sector unit of the Govt. of U.P. has been declared as a sick industrial company by the BIFR on 19.8.94.

The Prime Minister had stated at Allahabad on 28.8.96 that the Public Sector Undertaking UPTRON shall not be sold during President's Rule in U.P. and the new elected government will take final decision in this regard.

(b) Number of employees as on 31.1.97 are as follows :

Class I	145
Class II	244
Class III	1584
Class IV	365
	<hr/>
	2338

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Information Technology Industry

3892.DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the visit of the Israeli President and his delegation has been a boon to the Indian Information Technology industry;

(b) if so, whether according to the representative of the Israeli soft-ware industry and Managing Director of MLL and Services Ltd., India's weakness in systems software programming, India will need to focus on skills for development of packages, in addition to its current strength in projects;

(c) whether any agreement was signed in this regard with the Israeli Government; and

(d) if so, the details of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Both sides evinced keen interest to explore possibilities for cooperation in various high-technology areas including Information Technology.

(b) There was no such discussion.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Polluted Water

3893.SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the supply of polluted water to the people of Kanpur city by water supply department of Kanpur (U.P.);

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking stern action against the persons found responsible for it; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide safe drinking water ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Kanpur Jal Sansthan has reported that polluted water is not being supplied to the people of Kanpur city.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Raw water from river Ganga and Lower Ganga Canal is treated by conventional methods, i.e. coagulation, filtration and disinfection. Ground water from deep tubewells is supplied after disinfection. Under the World Bank project, settling tank no. 2 has been remodelled.

A new 200 mld filtration plan and pre & post chlorination plants have been commissioned to improve the water quality. Regular monitoring of water quality is being done.

[English]

Private Sector Transmission Projects

3894.SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that many private sector transmission projects are violating the Electricity Act and they are earning the return more than permissible amount fixed under the Act;

(b) if so, the percentage of returns by these private projects during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against such projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) There are no private sector transmission companies, as on today, dealing exclusively with transmission of power.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.